mounted on the passive unit, and at least one holding magnet is integrated in the fixed module so as to hold the fixed module on the running surface of the passive unit.

27. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 26, wherein the mechanical securing device comprises a stop bar, which is located at an edge of the passive unit and is rigidly mounted on the frame, and several mounting pins that engage the stop bar and the fixed module, the holding magnet comprising at least one electromagnet.

28. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with any of claim 22, wherein several quasi-stationary components are arranged at several fixed points that are separated from one another.

29. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 28, wherein the fixed points are formed by several work modules that are mounted on the passive unit.

30. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 22, comprising several active units that can move on the common passive unit, each of the active units has a moving component and/or a quasi-stationary component.

31. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 22, wherein the moving component is arranged in an externally accessible area with vertical displacement from the coil systems of the active unit.

32. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 31, wherein the moving component is mounted with vertical displacement from a workpiece holder mounted on the active unit.

33. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 32, wherein the moving component and the workpiece holder constitute a structural unit, which is replaceably connected with the active unit.

34. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 22, wherein the active unit has a holding frame, which is arranged parallel to the active running surface of the active unit, and in which a support plate is replaceably positioned, such that the moving component is arranged in a plane between the coil systems of the active unit and the support plate.

35. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with Claim 34, wherein the moving component is formed by a flat measurement standard, which is mounted on an underside of the support plate.

36. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 35, wherein the measurement standard is a cross-grating plate, whose parallel misalignment with the active running surface of the active unit is less than 50 μm.

37. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 34, wherein the holding frame and the support plate contain alignment devices, which interact by forces of magnetic attraction to position the support plate in a predetermined position in the holding frame.

38. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 37, wherein the alignment devices consist of several permanent magnets and opposing magnetizable aligning pins, which are inserted in the holding frame or in the support plate, respectively.

39. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 22, wherein the measuring sensor is an optical or magnetoresistive sensor.

40. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 22, and further comprising a global measuring system, by which movement of the active unit is controlled as long as the two components of the position measuring system are

not in measuring contact.

41. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 22, wherein the active unit is operative to move in step operation as long as the two components of the position measuring system are not in measuring contact.

42. (Previously presented) The planar direct drive in accordance with claim 22, wherein the bearing unit is an air bearing.